

The Cleveland
Museum of Art
11150 East
Boulevard
Cleveland, Ohio
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Egypt's
Dazzling Sun:
Amenhotep III
and His World
July 1 - September 20,
1992

August 28, 1992

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**ROSAMOND BERNIER, SHERMAN LEE HEAD LIST OF SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS
Friday, September 11 & Saturday, September 12**

Few political figures had the means, energy, and intellect to undertake projects as magnificent as those of Amenhotep III, the 14th-century BC pharaoh who is the focus of The Cleveland Museum of Art's current popular exhibition, **Egypt's Dazzling Sun: Amenhotep III and His World**. For a symposium on Friday evening, September 11, and all day Saturday, September 12, 1992, titled "Visionary Builders, Powerful Patrons," the Museum has gathered a group of experts--each an outstanding and dynamic speaker--to discuss six "visionaries" who, like Amenhotep III, were celebrated patrons of art and architecture in their own times and cultures.

The well-known writer and editor Rosamond Bernier will speak on *Catherine the Great (1729-1796)*. Ms. Bernier has been European features editor for Vogue magazine in post-war Paris; founder of the prestigious art journal L'Oeil; publisher and editor of innovative illustrated books; collaborator, with her husband, art critic John Russell of The New York Times, on television projects; head of her own production company, Rosa Mundi Inc.; and author of the recent book Matisse, Picasso, Miro--As I Knew Them. Ms. Bernier's exceptional gifts as a lecturer are known to many who have attended sold-out events at the Louvre in Paris and, annually, at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. She has adapted her keynote presentation for this symposium from her series on connoisseur-rulers, "Taste at the Top," and describes empress Catherine the Great: "Arriving in late adolescence as the German-born betrothed of the mentally subnormal and politically futureless heir to the throne of Russia, Catherine learned about power the hard way and made the very best of the lesson She

excelled as a big-scale builder, as an art collector who set no limits to her activity and as the patron of a European intelligentsia that was in full ferment."

Sherman E. Lee, adjunct professor, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, will talk about *The Hui-tsung Emperor (reigned 1101-1125)*, the last ruler of China's Northern Sung dynasty. Dr. Lee is best known to Cleveland museum-goers as the Art Museum's chief curator of Asian art and director for twenty-five years until his retirement in 1983; his distinguished career has included a role as advisor on collections, Arts and Monuments Division Section, GHQ, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, Tokyo. He is author of the popular text History of Far Eastern Art, co-author of Eight Dynasties of Chinese Painting, and has written and co-written innumerable catalogues and articles. Hui-tsung, a talented painter himself, amassed the largest collection known until his time of paintings, calligraphy, and ancient bronzes, stone carvings, and jades; some woodcut-illustrated catalogues the emperor published of his collection still survive. Hui-tsung also revamped the system of educating artists in China, establishing a syllabus for a painting institute at the palace academy that covered ancient and contemporary art as well as poetry, geography, zoology, and botany.

Other speakers and topics are as follows:

- Arielle P. Kozloff, curator of ancient art at The Cleveland Museum of Art and co-organizer of the current exhibition, speaking on *Amenhotep III in the Light of History's Grand Connoisseurs*
- Esin Atil, historian of Islamic art, Arthur M. Sackler Gallery/Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, speaking on *Süleyman and Akbar: Two Great Patrons of Islamic Arts*
- William L. MacDonald, independent scholar, Washington, DC, speaking on *Hadrian and the Mediterranean High Noon*
- William D. Wixom, chairman of the department of medieval art and The Cloisters, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and former curator of medieval and Renaissance decorative arts at the Cleveland Museum, on *The Valois and John, Duke of Berry*
- Linda Schele, professor of art history, University of Texas at Austin, and guest curator of the 1986 exhibition of Maya art, *The Blood of Kings, on 18 Rabbit of Copan (695-738 AD)*

Norman Krumholz, professor of urban planning, Cleveland State University, joins the panel as a discussant on Saturday afternoon.

The keynote lecture is at 8 pm Friday evening; Saturday events begin with 8:30 am registration and coffee and continue through a reception and private viewing of the **Egypt's Dazzling Sun** exhibition Saturday evening beginning at 6 pm. A registration fee of \$25 includes all events (\$20 for Museum members, seniors, and students with ID). A catered lunch on Saturday may be reserved for \$15. The registration deadline has been extended to September 8; all fees must be paid prior to the symposium date. For information call 216/421-7340, ext. 463, weekdays 9-5.

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